


Child Nutrition Weekly Update



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April 9, 2012

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Status of 2012-13 Online Application/Agreement Renewal

What is the status of the 2012-2013 Online Application/Agreement Renewal? The 2012-2013 Online Application/Agreement Renewal in the Child Nutrition Technology System (CNTS) for all School Food Authorities (SFA) will be delayed this year since the CNTS is currently under major construction. The Child Nutrition Services Section is working closely with the software provider to make this transition as smooth as possible and in a timely manner. Please continue to read the Child Nutrition Weekly Update for the status of opening the 2012-2013 Online Application/ Agreement Renewal as well as other pertinent information to successfully complete this annual process.

****NOTICE** Paid Lunch Equity Tool Training Webinar Time Changed**

The last webinar for training to assist SFAs in understanding and completing the new PLE tool is scheduled for Thursday, April 12. **Please take note that the start time for the webinar has changed to 11:00 a.m.**

To register for the training webinar click on the registration link below or copy and paste the link into your web browser to access the online registration form.

Thursday, April 12, 2012 from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

To register visit: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/640763905>

The Paid Lunch Equity (PLE) tool is, which is attached, should allow Child Nutrition Administrators to provide accurate information that would, in turn, allow the local board of education to make a well-informed decision about whether to raise paid lunch meal prices for the 2012-13 School Year.

The Section recommends that the SFA gather the following data, prior to participating in the webinar, in order to complete the process efficiently.

1. The total number of paid lunches served by price category for October 2010
2. The total number of paid lunches served by price category for October 2011
3. The total paid lunches served during the 2010-2011 SY

 = **ple tool.xls**

Updated 2011-12 Accountability MOA

The list of Testing Coordinators for that accompanies the 2011-12 Accountability MOA has been updated. The revised list is attached and should replace any previously distributed Accountability MOAs. If the contact information is incorrect for your SFA please contact Faye Atkinson with NCDPI Accountability Services at 919.807.3803. If you have other questions regarding the MOA or need assistance please contact your regional consultant.

 = **11-12 moa-acct**

2012-2013 Free and Reduced Price School Meal Application and Verification Forms Approval Procedures

All School Food Authorities (SFA) are required to submit their 2012-2013 Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application and Verification Forms packet to the State Agency (SA) for approval prior to printing and distributing to households. Local Education Agencies (LEA), Charter Schools, Non-Public/Private schools and Residential Child Care Institutions (RCCI) with day students **MUST** complete the pre-approval process before the annual Agreement to operate the Federally-funded Child Nutrition programs may be approved. The template forms will be sent in a future edition of the Child Nutrition Weekly Update.

Training

Several webinars will be conducted on how to prepare the Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application and Verification forms packet for approval. In addition, the PowerPoint presentation used in the webinars will be posted to the Child Nutrition website to provide additional assistance, if needed, in completing the packet.

All School Food Authorities (SFAs) are required to submit the 2012-2013 Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application and Verification Forms to the State Agency (SA) for prior approval. Local Education Agencies (LEAs), Charter Schools, Non-Public/Private Schools and Residential Child Care Institutions (RCCIs) with day students **MUST** complete the pre-approval process before the annual Agreement to operate the Federally-funded Child Nutrition programs may be approved. The template forms are attached. The completed application packet should be sent for approval to:

Pam Sheets
Child Nutrition Services
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
6324 Mail Services Center
Raleigh NC 27699-6324
pamela.sheets@dpi.nc.gov

Webinar Training

The final webinar will be conducted on April 17, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. The powerpoint slides will be posted to the Child Nutrition website to provide additional assistance, if needed, in completing the packet.

Date: **April 17, 2012 (Tuesday)**

Time: **10:00 – 11:00 am**

Who should attend: **Anyone

TO REGISTER CLICK THE LINK BELOW or COPY AND PASTE THE LINK INTO YOUR WEB BROWSER: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/315332632>

Online Application Approval

Approval of the online application is dependent upon the approval of the Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application Packet. Please continue to read future editions of the *Child Nutrition Weekly Update* for the opening of the online application process. Our goal is to open the online application process by mid April.

Free & Reduced Application Changes

1. Temporary Approval of an application is no longer applicable because of the year-long duration of eligibility provision. If SFAs are concerned with the authenticity of the information provided on an application, they may, on a case-by-case basis, verify the application for cause.

Temporary Free and Temporary Reduced should be removed from the "School use only" section of the 2012-2013 Free and Reduced Price School Meals Family Application.

2. Reduced Price Breakfast

In the first paragraph of the Parent Letter please insert the Reduced and Paid prices for breakfast

if your local school board decides not to cover the funding for reduced price breakfast the entire school year. If the local board decides to fund reduced priced breakfast then you must enter the price for a Paid breakfast only.

In the event that the local board has not decided then you must include both Reduced and Paid prices for breakfast.

Reminder

The 2012-2013 Income Eligibility Guidelines have been released and should be included in the Free and Reduced Family School Meal Application and Verification Form packet.

If you have questions about the application packet or the process of approving Free and Reduced Price School Meals Applications, please contact Pam Sheets at pamela.sheets@dpi.nc.gov or by telephone at (919) 807-3509.

 = 12-13 f&r app.doc

 = f&r checklist .doc

****REMINDER** Nutrient Analysis Due Soon**

Please remember that your Nutrient Analysis for March menus is due to your SMI Consultant on **Monday, April 16, 2012**. If you have questions or need assistance please contact your Regional SMI Consultant.

****REMINDER** School Grants for Healthy Kids**

APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 5, 2012.

Through partners such as Kellogg's and the Walmart Foundation, Action for Healthy Kids is pleased to release its School Grants for Healthy Kids opportunities for the 2012-2013 school year. Over 500 schools will be awarded funds that will range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 (average \$2,000) with significant in-kind contributions from Action for Healthy Kids in the form of people, programs, and school nutrition expertise. Several grants are being offered, each with a specific area of focus. You may select multiple program areas, but the average grant size will remain at \$2,000. We encourage you to please take a moment apply.

For more information and to apply visit:

www.actionforhealthykids.org/upcoming-events/grant-opportunities/school-grants-forhealthy.html

 = sch grant info.pdf

2012 Seamless Summer Option Training

NCDPI Child Nutrition Services is conducting several webinar trainings for NC School Food Authorities (SFA) that **anticipate** participating in the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for the summer of 2012. Even

if a SFA has attended a previous SSO training, the 2012 SSO training is **required** as well. Janice Ezzell, Training Coordinator for Child Nutrition Services, will be conducting the training. For your convenience, the SSO training is being offered through "GoToMeeting" webinar format. All that is needed to participate is a completed registration (in advance), a phone line, and a computer with internet access. Once registered, participants will be provided with the phone number and the website and login information to participate in the training. A total of six (6) GoToMeetings have been scheduled. Each webinar will be conducted using the same agenda and PowerPoint presentation. The dates and times are as follows:

Tuesday, April 10, 2012	9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 12, 2012	2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.
Wednesday, April 18, 2012	9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.
Thursday, April 19, 2012	3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.
Tuesday, April 24, 2012	9:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.
Thursday, May 3, 2012	2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P. M.

If you anticipate applying to participate in the SSO for the summer of 2012, a **Child Nutrition Administrator** must plan to participate in one of the required training webinars. Other Child Nutrition Staff and School Administrators may also participate in the training if they choose. The webinars are limited to 25 phone lines including the presenter. However, if your phone has a "speakerphone" with a mute option, multiple people can participate from one phone line providing the computer screen is visible to all.

Please complete the electronic registration form by going to the link below and selecting the webinar you wish to participate in:

<https://onece.ncsu.edu/search/publicCourseSearch.do?method=searchPAOnly&programAreaId=54369&showInternal=true>

Once you have registered, Ashley Schwed will send you a confirmation with the webinar link and phone number to participate. If you have questions after you submit your registration form, please contact Ashley at 919-515-8185 or at ashley_schwed@ncsu.edu

If you have general questions about the training, please contact Janice Ezzell at 910-833-6750 or via e-mail at Janice.ezzell@dpi.nc.gov and she will respond to your inquiry.

The NCDPI appreciates every School Food Authority's interest in feeding students during the summer months. It is a great service to every community.

What's New on the Web?

2012-2013 Income Eligibility Guidelines

The Income Eligibility Guidelines (IEGs) for School Year 2012-2013 have been posted on the Child

Nutrition website. The IEGs may be accessed via the “Frequently Used Links” section or click on “Eligibility Guidance” link via the Information & Resources section of the home page. The direct link to the Eligibility Guidance page is: <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/front-page/information-resources/eligibility-guidance>.

Remember...the Income Eligibility Guidelines are also available on the USDA/FNS website at: <http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Governance/notices/iegs/IEGs.htm>.

Weekly Q&A – The Final Rule and Meals for Children with Disabilities

Question

Does the Final Rule, “Nutrition Standards in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs”, impact the meals for children with disabilities?

Answer

The meals for children with recognized medical disabilities that restrict their diet are not affected by the new meal patterns and dietary specifications and continue to be based on a medical statement from a licensed physician.

Optional accommodations for children with special dietary needs (without recognized medical disabilities) must be consistent with the new meal patterns and dietary specifications.

Reference: SP 10-2012 – REVISED, dated March 1, 2012, page 4. The policy may be viewed and/or download from the Child Nutrition website Policy Memo page at: <http://childnutrition.ncpublicschools.gov/regulations-policies/usda-policy-memos/2012/2012-usda-policy-memos/sp102012r.pdf>

Mark Your Calendar

April 10 (Tuesday) Monthly Claim for Reimbursement Due
April 15 Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Claim for Reimbursement Due
April 15 (for 2012) Nutrient Analysis for March Menus Due
May 28 Memorial Day (Holiday – State offices closed)
June 15 Deadline for Submission of 2012-13 Agreement Renewal

TRAINING

April 12 (1:30 pm – 3:00 pm) Paid Lunch Equity Tool
April 10 (9:00 am – 10:00 am) Seamless Summer Option
April 12 (2:00 pm – 3:00 pm) Seamless Summer Option

April 17 (10:00 am – 11:00 am)..... 2012-13 F&R School Meals Application & Verification Form Packet

April 18 (9:00 am – 10:00 am) Seamless Summer Option

April 19 (3:00 pm – 4:00 pm) Seamless Summer Option

April 24 (9:00 am – 10:00 am) Seamless Summer Option

May 3 (2:00 pm – 3:00 pm) Seamless Summer Option

**** REMEMBER** – Anytime the 10th falls on a weekend the actual due date for the claim for reimbursement is the next business day which is usually Monday. In the event that the following Monday is a holiday then the due date moves to the next business day. With that said, the CN Technology system is programmed to flag any reimbursement submitted after the 10th with the “10 day” error message (Error Code 1401). The NCDPI Child Nutrition section and the Claims section are fully aware of this and the Claims department will automatically override that error message for any claims submitted in this time period. **NOTE:** This also applies to the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program for which the claim for reimbursement is due on the 15th of each month.

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